

(ii) For prohibition against solicitation of employment in matters related to the Internal Revenue Service, see 31 CFR 10.30 (Treasury Department Circular No. 230) and section 7 of Rev. Proc. 68-20, 1968-1 C.B. 812.

(2) *Permissible disclosures to third parties.* If a tax return preparer has obtained from a taxpayer a consent described in paragraph (b) of this section, he may disclose the tax return information of such taxpayer to such third persons as the taxpayer may direct. However, see § 301.7216-2 for certain permissible disclosures without formal written consent.

(3) *Disclosure or use of information in connection with another person's return.* A tax return preparer may disclose or use any tax return information, which was obtained from a first taxpayer, in preparing a tax return of a second taxpayer if the tax return preparer has obtained from the first taxpayer a written consent described in paragraph (b) of this section. See § 301.7216-2(b) for disclosure or use in certain cases without formal consent.

(b) *Form of consent.* A separate written consent, signed by the taxpayer or his duly authorized agent or fiduciary, must be obtained for each separate use or disclosure authorized in paragraph (a) (1), (2) or (3) of this section and shall contain—

(1) The name of the tax return preparer,

(2) The name of the taxpayer,

(3) The purpose for which the consent is being furnished.

(4) The date on which such consent is signed,

(5) A statement that the tax return information may not be disclosed or used by the tax return preparer for any purpose (not otherwise permitted under § 301.7216-2) other than that stated in the consent, and

(6) A statement by the taxpayer, or his agent or fiduciary, that he consents to the disclosure or use of such information for the purpose described in subparagraph (3) of this paragraph (b).

(c) *Illustrations.* The application of this section may be illustrated by the following examples:

*Example 1.* In order to stimulate the making of loans, a bank advertises that it is in the business of preparing tax returns. A tax-

payer goes to the bank to have his tax return prepared. After the return has been completed by the bank, the employee of the bank who obtained the tax return information from the taxpayer explains that the taxpayer owes an additional \$400 in taxes and that the bank's loan department may be able to offer the taxpayer a loan to pay the tax due. If the taxpayer decides to accept the opportunity offered to apply for a loan, the bank must first have the taxpayer execute a written consent described in paragraph (b) of this section for the bank to use any of such information which is required in determining whether to make the tax loan.

*Example 2.* An individual who sells life insurance and shares in a mutual fund is also in the business of preparing tax returns. A taxpayer who has gone to the individual to have his tax return prepared is requested, at the time he picks up his completed tax return, to give his consent to the individual's use of his tax return information in connection with such individual's solicitation of the taxpayer's purchasing a life insurance policy and shares in the mutual fund. Before the individual may use such tax return information as a basis for soliciting such additional business from the taxpayer, the taxpayer must execute separate written consents under paragraph (b) of this section, one authorizing the use of such information as a basis for soliciting the sale of the mutual fund shares and a second authorizing the use of such information as a basis for soliciting the sale of the life insurance.

*Example 3.* The facts are the same as in example 2 except that the individual does not sell life insurance but does sell shares in several mutual funds. If the request is for the purpose of using the tax return information as a basis for soliciting the sale at one time of shares in mutual funds A and B, only one written consent under paragraph (b) of this section is required of the taxpayer. If, however, the request is for the purpose of using the tax return information as a basis for soliciting the sale of shares in fund A at one time, and the sale of shares in fund B at a later time, two written consents under such paragraph are required of the taxpayer.

[T.D. 7310, 39 FR 11540, Mar. 29, 1974]

#### PENALTIES APPLICABLE TO CERTAIN TAXES

#### § 301.7231-1 Failure to obtain license for collection of foreign items.

For provisions relating to the obtaining of a license for the collection of foreign items, see section 7001 and § 301.7001-1.